

1909

# Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Denmark for the Year Ending February 12, 1909

Denmark, (Me.)

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**Municipal Officers**  
**OF THE**  
**TOWN OF DENMARK**  
**FOR THE**  
**Year Ending February 12th**

**1909**

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NORWAY, ME.:  
ADVERTISER BOOK PRINT  
1909



DEC -2 1909



# Town Officers

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*Clerk:*

WILLIAM C. ORDWAY

*Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor:*

ISAAC H. BERRY

CHARLES E. SMITH

CHARLES E. PINGREE

*Treasurer:*

GEORGE W. GRAY

*Collector:*

WILLIAM B. DEASEY

*Superintendent of Schools:*

REV. ALEXANDER C. BOYD

*Road Commissioner:*

EDWIN P. FESSENDEN

*School Committee:*

CHARLES E. PINGREE

SUMNER H. SMITH

AUGUSTUS S. COLBY

# Warrant For Town Meeting

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To William B. Deasey, a constable of Denmark, in the County of Oxford and state of Maine, Greeting:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town of Denmark qualified to vote by law in town affairs, to assemble at the Town house in said town on Monday, the first day of March next at 10 o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following articles, to wit:

Art. 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To choose a Town Clerk for the year ensuing.

Art. 3. To choose a Board of Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of Poor and Treasurer for the year ensuing.

Art. 4. To choose a member of Superintending School Committee for the term of three years.

Art. 5. To choose a Road Commissioner or Commissioners for one, two or three years as provided by Chapter four, Section 13, Statutes of Maine.

Art. 6. To choose a collector of taxes for the year ensuing.

Art. 7. To see what per cent. the town will vote to pay for collecting taxes for the year ensuing.

Art. 8. To choose all other necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

Art. 9. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of common schools for the year ensuing.

Art. 10. To see if the town will vote to maintain a free high school for the year ensuing.

Art. 11. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for a free high school for the ensuing year.

Art. 12. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of poor for the ensuing year.

Art. 13. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the payment of town charges for the ensuing year.

Art. 14. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the purchase of school books for the ensuing year.

Art. 15. To see if the town will vote "yes" or "no" upon the adoption of the provisions of Chapter 112 of the Public Laws of Maine for the year 1907, relating to the appropriation of money necessary to entitle the town to State aid for highways for the year 1909.

Art. 16. To see if the town will raise, appropriate and set apart for the permanent improvement of the main highways within the town, such sum of money as is contemplated and directed by section 5 of Chapter 112 of the Public Laws of Maine for the year 1907, being the sum of \$63.00

Art. 17. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the repair of school-houses for the ensuing year.

Art. 18. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the payment of tuition for the year ensuing.

Art. 19. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for supplies for schools for the ensuing year.

Art. 20. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for repair of roads and bridges for the ensuing year.

Art. 21. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the payment of snow bills for the year ensuing.

Art. 22. To see if the town will vote to have a new valuation of the town taken and make all necessary arrangements for doing said work.

Art. 23. To see if the town will vote to sell the Merrifield farm if satisfactory price can be realized.

Art. 24. To see if the town will vote to discontinue the road leading from Luther Trumbull's by the Jacob Merrifield farm (so called) or such part of same as may be deemed necessary.

Art. 25. To see what action the town will take as to the claim of Ethel R. Harmon.

Art. 26. To see what action the town will take in regard to the personal property tax of the E. I. De Nemours Powder Co.

Art. 27. To see if the town will grant and raise the sum of \$10.00 for Memorial purposes.

Art. 28. To see what action the town will take in regard to raising Walker Bridge (so called) and to make such arrangements as may be necessary to do said work.

Art. 29. To see if the town will vote to maintain a school in the Fessenden District (so called.)

The Selectmen give notice that they will be in session at the town house in said town on Monday, the first day of March, at nine o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of correcting the list of voters.

Given under our hands the fifteenth day of February, A. D. 1909.

ISAAC H. BERRY,	}	<i>Selectmen of Denmark.</i>
C. E. SMITH,		
C. E. PINGREE,		

# Report of Selectmen

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The selectmen of the town of Denmark herewith submit the following statement of the financial condition of the affairs of the town for the year ending Feb. 12, 1909. The value of the taxable property as taxed on the first day of April, 1908, was as follows:

Resident real estate.....	\$200,945 00
"    personal estate.....	47,020 00
Non-resident real estate.....	119,160 00
"    personal estate.....	7,790 00
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Total.....	\$374,915 00

Number of polls not taxed, 18.

Number of polls taxed, 174.

Assessed on each poll, \$3.00.

Rate of taxation, \$15.00 on \$1,000.00.

## ASSESSMENTS.

Tuition.....	\$ 200 00
Interest on school fund.....	32 80
Common schools.....	1,000 00
Free high school.....	250 00
Support of poor.....	650 00
Town charges.....	600 00
School books.....	50 00
State road.....	55 50
Roads and bridges.....	1,400 00
Repair of schoolhouses.....	250 00
County tax.....	563 49
State tax.....	1,002 23
Overlay.....	91 83
Supplementary.....	6 00
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Total..... \$6,151 85

## SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

## CR.

By Balance Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$ 184 32
Appropriation .....	1,000 00
Interest on school fund.....	32 80
Appropriation from State.....	590 13
Fryeburg on account, tuition.....	18 25
Brownfield       "       " .....	28 50
S. S. Smith,       "       " .....	6 00
Total.....	\$1,860 00

## DR.

To Althea Meader, teaching.....	\$51 00
Frank Wales, fitting wood.....	2 60
Charles E. Pingree, wood.....	2 15
Ralph Bean, fitting wood.....	1 00
C. I. Smith, janitor.....	6 50
Mrs. A. S. Colby, transportation.....	17 50
H. M. Moxcey, wood.....	7 00
Chesley Tibbetts, janitor.....	2 35
Ellen Warren,       cleaning schoolhouse	2 00
Mrs. Willard Garey,       "       "	2 00
Chesley Tibbetts,       "       "	2 25
Mrs. Marshall Wentworth       "       "	5 00
Harry Higgins, sawing wood.....	1 00
Flora Hilton, cleaning schoolhouse.....	2 50
Perley Garey, sawing wood.....	75
C. I. Smith, janitor.....	5 60
Burleigh Moulton, janitor.....	75
Mrs. Wilbur Kenison, transportation.....	15 00
Leroy Ward, janitor.....	75
Fanny Higgins,       transportation.....	24 75
Mrs. Perley Rankin,       "       "	27 00
Mrs. Wilbur Kenison,       "       "	16 50
Jessie L. Rowe, teaching.....	63 00
Mrs. A. S. Colby, transportation.....	22 50
Gertrude Warren,   teaching.....	49 50
Georgia F. Gatchell,   "       "	54 00
Amy L. Smith,       "       "	72 00
Ethel R. Harmon,       "       "	76 50
Mrs. Charles E. Smith, transportation.....	31 50
Elmer Garey, sawing wood.....	2 25
Sumner H. Smith, wood.....	10 50



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To	Basil and Miles Boyd, storing wood.....	\$ 1 25
	Fred Sanborn, wood.....	3 50
	Dana Libby, ".....	9 25
	Chesley Tibbetts, wood.....	10 50
	Mrs. C. E. Smith, transportation.....	35 00
	Jessie L. Rowe, teaching.....	70 00
	Georgia F. Gatchell, ".....	60 00
	Fanny Higgins, transportation.....	27 50
	Amy L. Smith, teaching.....	80 00
	Horace Gore, transportation.....	36 00
	Mrs. P. G. Rankin, transportation.....	3 00
	Mrs. Wilbur Kenison, transportation.....	35 00
	Gertrude Warren, teaching.....	55 00
	Mrs. Sadie Ward, janitor.....	1 70
	James A. Head, wood.....	3 50
	Bennett Moulton, janitor.....	2 00
	J. A. Head, wood.....	18 25
	Ethel R. Harmon, teaching.....	85 00
	Mrs. Gertrude DeMass, janitor.....	1 25
	Sumner H. Smith, wood.....	4 50
	Irving K. Ingalls, sawing wood.....	3 00
	C. I. Smith, janitor.....	1 75
	Mrs. Gertrude DeMass, janitor.....	2 25
	I. H. Berry, supplies.....	2 90
	Fanny Higgins, transportation.....	29 25
	Mrs. Gertrude DeMass, teaching.....	49 50
	Mrs. C. E. Smith, transportation.....	31 50
	American Crayon Co., crayons.....	2 35
	Merrill & Closson, supplies.....	2 06
	A. C. Boyd, supplies and fitting wood.....	50
	D. H. Knowlton, supplies.....	1 60
	Loring, Short & Harmon, supplies.....	90
	A. C. Boyd, supplies.....	75
	Basil Boyd, sawing wood.....	40
	Gordon Richardson, janitor.....	3 00
	Amy L. Smith, teaching.....	72 00
	Mrs. P. G. Rankin, transportation.....	36 00
	Bennett Moulton, janitor.....	2 25
	Jessie L. Rowe, teaching.....	63 00
	Mrs. Wilbur Kenison, transportation.....	32 00
	Georgia F. Gatchel, teaching.....	54 00
	Chesley Tibbetts, janitor.....	5 00
	Unexpended Feb. 12, 1909.....	244 14
	Total.....	\$1,860 00

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HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

## CR.

Unexpended, Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$105 43	
Appropriation .....	250 00	
Received from state.....	97 83	
Due from state.....	402 17	
		<hr/>
		\$855 43

## DR.

To Charles E. Pingree, wood.....	\$ 2 00	
Freeman H. Sanborn, teaching.....	75 00	
“ “ “ .....	60 00	
James A. Head, wood.....	4 00	
Freeman H. Sanborn, teaching.....	60 00	
Mrs. Florence Sanborn, cleaning schoolhouse	5 00	
Miss Gertrude M. Parsons, teaching.....	75 00	
Ralph Wentworth, sawing wood.....	1 00	
Miss Gertrude M. Parsons, teaching.....	75 00	
I. K. Ingalls, sawing wood.....	3 00	
C. I. Smith, janitor.....	3 75	
Miss Gertrude M. Parsons, teaching.....	75 00	
James A. Head, wood.....	8 00	
Gertrude M. Parsons, teaching.....	75 00	
C. I. Smith, janitor.....	6 00	
Unexpended Feb. 12, 1909.....	327 68	
		<hr/>
Total .....		\$855 43

## SCHOOL BOOK ACCOUNT.

## CR.

By appropriation.....	\$ 50 00	
Unexpended Feb. 12, 1908.....	115 13	
Deficit Feb. 12, 1909.....	11 21	
		<hr/>
Total.....		\$176 34

## DR.

To Ginn & Co., books.....	\$26 68	
E. E. Babb & Co., books.....	58	
D. C. Heath and Co., books.....	2 10	

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To Thompson, Brown & Co., books.....	\$ 9 02
S. H. Smith, telephone for books.....	1 40
D. C. Heath & Co., books.....	4 75
Thompson, Brown & Co., books.....	17 49
D. C. Heath & Co., books.....	6 30
Loring, Short & Harmon, books.....	75
Silver, Burdette & Co., books.....	16 62
J. E. Ingalls, express.....	6 75
Geo. P. Brown & Co., books.....	1 50
Merrill & Closson, books.....	4 40
D. H. Knowlton & Co., books.....	63
E. E. Babb & Co., books.....	21 68
Ginn & Co., books.....	19 00
E. E. Babb & Co., books.....	8 88
E. E. Babb & Co., books.....	9 00
James E. Ingalls, express.....	4 00
D. H. Knowlton, books.....	81 26
Ginn & Co. books.....	6 69
<hr/>	
Total.....	\$176 34

## SCHOOLHOUSE REPAIRS ACCOUNT.

## CR.

Appropriation .....	\$250 00
Rec'd from committee, stove.....	2 00
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Total.....	\$252 00

## DR.

To Overdrawn Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$ 5 36
C. I. Smith.....	1 50
S. H. Smith.....	2 75
John Smith and Burleigh Moulton, repairs on well.....	4 00
A. S. Colby.....	3 30
I. H. Berry, sheathing, etc.....	36 19
A. C. Colby, work.....	9 75
A. C. Boyd, repairs.....	3 25
Augustine Ingalls, shingles.....	53
D. S. Perkins & Son, repairs.....	35
Unexpended Feb. 12, 1909.....	185 02
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Total .....	\$252 00

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 TUITION ACCOUNT.

## CR.

By Amount due from State.....	\$103 47	
Appropriation .....	200 00	
	<hr/>	\$303 47

## DR.

To Overdrawn Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$79 99	
H. G. Clements, for Arthur and Ellen Deering	16 67	
J. L. Bennett, for Myrtie L. Fessenden, Edward Smith and Frank Jack.....	47 91	
E. E. Hastings for Perley Smith, Wilton Warren and Bacon.....	30 00	
E. E. Hastings for Perley Smith, Wilton Warren and Bacon.....	30 00	
C. G. Willard for Perley Smith Wilton Warren and Bacon.....	30 00	
H. G. Clements for Arthur and Ellen Deering	8 30	
O. L. Stanley for Cora and Annie Wentworth	17 00	
J. L. Bennett for Myrtie Fessenden, Edward Smith and Frank Jack.....	27 06	
Unexpended Feb. 12., 1909.....	16 54	
	<hr/>	
Total.....		\$303 47

## POOR ACCOUNT.

## CR.

By Unexpended Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$200 31	
Appropriation.....	650 00	
From city of Portland.....	80 00	
" Luther Trumbull.....	66 00	
" F. T. Pingree, Merrifield farm.....	35 00	
" I. H. Berry, Merrifield goods.....	10 75	
" W. G. Nason.....	88 71	
Due from S. H. Colby, windows.....	5 25	
	<hr/>	
Total.....		\$1,136 02

## DR.

To Luther Trumbull, board Rose Cole and Hannah Merrifield.....	\$ 54 00	
M. S. Campbell, board Aldana Merrifield....	39 00	
Albert Wentworth, board Henry Holland....	15 00	

To Luther Trumbull, board Rose Cole and Hannah Merrifield.....	\$ 48 30
Eugene Higgins, board Henry Holland.....	25 50
Albert Wentworth, board Henry Holland...	3 00
C. H. Marston, medical attendance Hannah Merrifield.....	2 50
Elwood Pingree, board Henry Holland.....	15 00
Mrs. O. F. Richardson, keeping tramp.....	1 00
Luther Trumbull, board and supplies Hannah Merrifield and Rose Cole.....	54 40
M. S. Campbell, board Aldana Merrifield....	39 55
H. F. Fitch, medical attendance Hannah Merrifield.....	2 50
Elwood Pingree, board H. Holland.....	27 00
Luther Trumbull, board Rose Cole and Hannah Merrifield.....	54 00
M. S. Campbell, board Ida Nason.....	3 41
" " " " " .....	52 41
" " " Aldana Merrifield....	42 97
Mrs. O. F. Richardson, keeping tramp.....	2 00
Elwood Pingree, board H. Holland.....	39 00
D. S. Perkins & Son, supplies Hannah Merrifield.....	2 87
Mrs. O. F. Richardson, keeping tramp.....	1 00
Luther Trumbull, board Rose Cole and Hannah Merrifield.....	90 60
D. S. Perkins & Son, shoes for H. Holland...	2 00
J. L. Bennett, med. attendance Ida Nason...	10 00
M. S. Campbell, support A. Merrifield.....	41 48
" " " Ida Nason.....	22 89
Marshall Wentworth, board Henry Holland..	21 00
I. H. Berry, wire for Merrifield farm.....	2 44
I. H. Berry, cash paid supplies H. Holland..	7 50
E. W. Berry, supplies H. Holland.....	2 00
Unexpended Feb. 12, 1909.....	411 70
	<hr/>
	\$1,136 02

## TOWN CHARGES ACCOUNT.

CR.

By Appropriation.....	\$600 00
Deficit Feb. 12, 1909.....	72 62
	<hr/>
	\$672 62

## DR.

To deficit Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$177 95
I. H. Berry, express and postage on reports.	1 40
F. W. Sanborn, printing reports.....	22 80
Loring, Short & Harmon, office supplies....	14 96
A. W. Belcher, recording births and deaths.	90
A. W. Belcher, disinfecting.....	3 50
A. C. Boyd, postage, stationery and expenses	10 67
D. B. Johnson, truant officer.....	1 50
L. H. Ingalls, services, constable.....	1 50
D. Eugene Chaplin, services as Counsel.....	10 00
I. H. Berry, flag for Liberty Corner school..	2 25
A. C. Boyd, part pay as supt, of schools.....	25 00
“ “ postage, stationery and expenses	14 82
“ “ part pay supt. of schools.....	25 00
L. H. Ingalls, services as ballot clerk.....	3 00
W. R. Kenison, services as ballot clerk.....	3 00
A. C. Boyd, part pay supt. of schools.....	10 00
Loring, Short & Harmon, order book.....	2 60
A. C. Boyd, stationery and expenses.....	7 75
A. C. Boyd, part pay supt. schools.....	15 00
C. H. McIntire, horse hire A. C. Boyd.....	2 50
A. C. Boyd, postage and telephone.....	2 00
I. H. Berry, services as moderator.....	2 00
A. W. Belcher, Secretary board of health ...	10 00
A. W. Belcher, postage and supplies.....	75
I. H. Berry, services selectman, assessor and overseer of poor.....	55 00
C. E. Smith, services selectman, assessor and overseer of poor.....	45 00
C. E. Pingree, services selectman, assessor and overseer of poor.....	45 00
C. E. Smith, services on town line, State road	15 00
I. H. Berry, postage and telephone.....	1 72
Geo. W. Gray, services as treasurer.....	15 00
Wm. C. Ordway, services as clerk.....	10 00
“ “ reporting births, deaths and postage.....	3 54
W. B. Deasey, services constable.....	10 50
“ “ collecting taxes.....	24 60
“ “ abatements.....	12 00
I. H. Berry, trip to Augusta and expenses ac- count Brownfield and Denmark line...	12 41

To C. E. Smith, cash paid E. E. Hastings.....	\$ 2 00	
A. C. Boyd, bal. as Supt. schools to Mar. 1st.	50 00	
		<hr/> \$672 62

## LIST OF UNPAID TAXES, FEB. 12, 1909.

Herbert Cole.....	\$ 3 00
Dellos Hilton.....	3 00
E. I. Dupont De Nemous Powder Co.,.....	82 13

## W. B. DEACEY'S ABATEMENTS.

Thomas Butler, not to be found.....	\$3 00
Benjamin Libby, paid in Bridgton.....	3 00
Mellville Nason, dead.....	3 00
E. Thorne, illegally taxed.....	3 00

## PAINTING TOWN HOUSE.

CR.

No appropriation

DR.

To G. W. Gray.....	\$43 96
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## STATE ROAD ACCOUNT.

CR.

By Appropriation .....	55 50
Amount set aside.....	111 00
" received from state.....	208 12
Deficit .....	270 75

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\$645 37

DR.

To T. L. Adams, labor.....	\$ 6 00
H. R. Smith, " .....	15 00
C. F. Bean, " .....	15 00
Marshall Wentworth, " .....	10 00
D. J. Ward, " .....	7 00
Willard Garey, " .....	10 07
H. R. Smith, " .....	30 00
C. F. Bean, " .....	15 00
Marshall Wentworth, " .....	10 00

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To	T. L. Adams,	labor.....	\$10 00
	D. J. Ward,	" .....	10 00
	Cbas. Sanborn,	" .....	64 50
	Paul Kuvieck,	" .....	2 63
	Octaves Poulin,	" .....	5 25
	Elmer Garey,	" .....	1 75
	Marshall Wentworth,	" .....	10 00
	A. R. Wentworth,	" .....	6 13
	Geo. Wade,	" .....	10 07
	H. R. Smith,	" .....	42 25
	Marshall Wentworth,	" .....	63 00
	Almon Wentworth,	" .....	39 82
	A. S. Wentworth,	" .....	23 79
	C. F. Bean,	" .....	7 19
	D. J. Ward,	" .....	2 25
	William Walker,	" .....	1 75
	T. L. Adams,	" .....	21 19
	E. P. Fessenden,	" .....	27 98
	Andrew Smith	" .....	19 25
	E. P. Fessenden,	" .....	89 09
	E. C. Hale,	" .....	1 75
	A. S. Wentworth,	" .....	1 75
	H. R. Smith,	" .....	1 75
	E. B. Dresser,	" .....	2 19
	T. L. Adams	" .....	1 75
	Fred Lord,	" .....	1 75
	Geo. Lord,	" .....	1 75
	William Smith,	" .....	1 75
	Paul Kuvieck,	" .....	2 50
	Reuben Smith,	" .....	29 40
	D. D. Tripp, lumber.....		6 00
	I. H. Berry, supplies.....		17 07
			<hr/>
			\$645 37

## HIGHWAY ACCOUNT.

CR.

By	appropriation.....	\$1,289 00
	Deficit Feb. 12th, 1909.....	618 71
		<hr/>
Total.....		\$1,907 71



## DR.

To deficit Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$298 65
H. F. Lord, water tub.....	3 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	5 00
M. E. Wentworth, water tub.....	3 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	50 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	209 15
E. P. Fessenden.....	13 98
E. P. Fessenden.....	25 00
C. M. Conant Co., repairs road machine.....	16 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	100 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	75 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	100 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	100 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	100 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	430 80
E. P. Fessenden.....	20 95
N. S. Thomes, water tub.....	3 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	5 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	2 36
E. P. Fessenden.....	1 00
E. P. Fessenden.....	22 61
A. F. Bradbury, water tub.....	3 00
H. Gore, water tub.....	1 50
E. P. Fessenden.....	318 71
Total.....	\$1,907 71

## RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES.

## RESOURCES.

By Amount on deposit.....	\$2,035 21
“ in treasury.....	1,841 33
“ Due from collector.....	88 13
Merrifield farm.....	400 00
Total.....	\$4,364 67

## LIABILITIES.

Due common schools.....	\$ 244 14
Estimated unpaid bills.....	100 00
Balance in favor of town.....	4,020 53
Total.....	\$4,364 67

The State road fund has been overdrawn considerably owing to the fact that the work was such that we could not stop until the road was in passable condition. Owing to a slight misunderstanding the bill for stone used has not been paid. We trust the matter can be satisfactorily adjusted at the proper time.

Order No. 198 owing to a controversy between the Superintendent of Schools and the School Committee has not been paid by the treasurer. An article will be found in the warrant for the town's action in this matter.

The claim of the town against the city of Portland for supplies furnished Fulton H. Hartford has been paid, we believing it better to make a slight reduction in our bill than to make cost in collection.

The town line Brownfield and Denmark has been preambulated and there is due Mr. Piper the surveyor \$15.00 for three days doing said work.

The chairman of the Selectmen would take this opportunity to thank the voters of this town for the generous support given him in past years and would announce that he will not be a candidate for re-election.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC H. BERRY,	}	<i>Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor.</i>
CHAS. E. SMITH,		
CHAS. E. PINGREE,		

# Town Clerk's Report

## MARRIAGES.

January 1st, 1908, to January 1st, 1909.

Intentions filed.....8  
Marriages recorded.....9

Jan. 15, 1908, Wm. B. Deasey and Mary J. Phelan.  
Mar. 11, Gardner L. Adams and Addie B. Hale.  
25, Elmer C. Hale and Annie E. Purrington.  
28, Charles L. Rose and Carrie May Smith.  
June 12, Frank Burnell and Ethel A. Chadbourn.  
July 28, Sumner H. Smith and Ethel M. Boyd.  
Sept. 23, Arthur Evans and Ella M. Bryant.  
Oct. 2, Chadbourn Rand, Jr., and Alice J. Robinson.  
Nov. 26, Joseph W. DeMass and Lizzie Gertrude Warren.

## BIRTHS.

Whole number, 6.

	Father's Name.	Sex.
April 7, 1908,	George A. Lord,	son.
May 18,	Ellis F. Blake,	daughter.
24,	Wm. L. Jones,	son.
July 10,	George Hill,	son.
Aug. 26,	Tracy L. Adams,	daughter.
Sept. 7,	Leroy P. Hale,	son.

## DEATHS.

Whole number recorded including those brought from other towns for interment, 18.

Date of Death.	Name.	Age Years.	Months.	Days.
Jan. 4, 1908,	Elizabeth E. Kenison,	55	7	4
9,	Albion P. Merrill,	84	2	16
16,	Lillia B. Emery,	49	3	26
18,	Lydia A. Smith,	78	3	1

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Feb.	2, 1908,	Lucy A. Harnden,	68	11	13
	6,	Willard J. Swan,	46	10	2
	9,	Sarah C. Benton,	89	5	3
Mar.	16,	Joseph G. Smith,	43	1	9
	29,	Sarah Sanborn,	77	10	18
May	24,	Jones, s. b.,	0	0	0
June	7,	Herneldo B. Hartford,	52	0	0
	7,	Edmond G. Wentworth,	92	11	3
Aug.	3,	Leonard T. Blake,	26	2	20
Nov.	7,	Reginald Harold Hale,		2	
	11,	Harold A. Jewett,	25		
	20,	Edwin Evans,	58	6	
	20,	Peter Lamoine,	91	1	4
	26,	Lucy Ann Pingree,	64	10	20

Whole number of dogs licensed .....52

Amount received for 48 males.....\$48 00

Amount received for 4 females..... 12 00

————— \$60 00

Amount paid to town treasurer, George W. Gray.....\$60 00

Respectfully submitted,

WM. C. ORDWAY, Town Clerk.

# Report of Secretary of Board of Health

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From January 1st, 1908 to January 1st, 1909.

To the Selectmen and Citizens of Denmark:

GENTLEMEN:—The Town of Denmark in the past year has been almost free from contagious or infectious diseases. In the death of Mr. Joseph Smith who died of Cardiac Dropsy symptoms of tuberculosis was discovered, and by request of the family the house was given a thorough fumigation. A few cases of measles were reported. One nuisance complained of was abated without trouble, by the Board. One case of typhoid fever was reported by Dr. Marsden, a very mild case. The usual precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease. We find there is a slackness in reporting cases of contagious and infectious diseases by the citizens, and the following is an abstract of the health laws of Maine:

## Section 33. Health Laws of Maine.

Whenever any householder knows or has reason to believe that any person within his family or household has small pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever, cholera, typhus, or typhoid fever, cerebro spinal meningitis, measles, membranous croup, so called, whooping cough, or pulmonary tuberculosis, or consumption as it is commonly termed, he shall within twenty-four hours give notice thereof to the health officer of the town in which he resides, and such notice shall be given either at the office of the health officer, or by a communication addressed to him and duly mailed within the time above specified. And in case there is no health officer, to the Secretary of the Local Board of Health, either at his office or by communication as aforesaid.

Respectfully submitted,

A. W. BELCHER, Secretary Local Board of Health.

CHAS. ED. SMITH,	}	<i>Local Board Health.</i>
A. W. BELCHER, Sec.,		
GEORGE N. COLBY,		

An abstract of the Health Laws of Maine will be furnished by the Secretary upon application.

A. W. BELCHER, Secretary.

# Road Commissioner's Report

## SNOW BILLS.

E. P. Fessenden,	breaking roads.....	\$30 00
W. W. Berry,	" " .....	31 90
Osborn Richardson,	" " .....	19 50
C. E. Smith,	" " .....	21 00
H. R. Smith,	" " .....	12 00
A. C. Jewett,	" " .....	26 50
Marshall Wentworth,	" " .....	31 25
Lee Adams,	" " .....	15 00
Geo. Moulton,	" " .....	13 50
Fred Alexander,	" " .....	10 50
Herbert Evans,	" " .....	3 45
Warren Higgins,	" " .....	4 81
Will Gerry,	" " .....	20 00
Bailey Trumbull,	" " .....	9 75
Simeon Colby,	" " .....	9 75
Leonard Blake,	" " .....	75
Elmer Hale,	" " .....	6 76
W. W. Dacey,	" " .....	13 98
Fred Sanborn,	" " .....	20 00
A. P. Pingree,	" " .....	7 00
F. W. Witham, plank.....		32
Harry Smith,	labor.....	75
James Head,	" .....	50
Perley Richardson,	" .....	87
Roy Hale,	" .....	1 75
Hollis Plant,	" .....	1 75
Nelson Thomes,	" .....	1 25
Marshall Wentworth,	" .....	50
Osborn Richardson,	" .....	6 00
Albert Harmon,	" .....	2 62
Horace Orcutt,	" .....	4 00
John Sobasuick,	" .....	1 50
E. B. Dresser,	" .....	5 00
Will Nason,	" .....	15 75
Dana Libby,	" .....	2 25
George Lord,	" .....	1 00
A. B. Ordway, dirt.....		10 00

Will Ordway,	labor.....	\$ 75
Fred Alexander,	" .....	3 00
A. F. Trumbull,	" .....	3 80
Simon Tibbetts,	" .....	2 00
Daniel Smith,	" .....	7 00
Armond Warren,	" .....	12 25
C. H. & W. B. Warren,	" .....	11 37
C. E. Smith, plank and work.....		5 00
Geo. Moulton,	labor.....	1 00
Harry Higgins,	" .....	50
Horace Gore,	" .....	1 00
Samuel Colby,	" .....	50
Bailey Trumbull,	" .....	3 50
Stephen Rowe, lumber and work.....		5 00
Leon Jack, labor.....		50
George Pendexter, labor.....		25
M. E. Wentworth, plank.....		1 50
W. W. Berry,	labor.....	1 00
H. F. Lord,	" .....	4 00
Leith Warren,	" .....	1 00
Bert Jordan,	" .....	50
Lewis Warren,	" .....	1 00
Perley McKusick, plank.....		3 80
E. P. Fessenden,	38½ days.....	77 00
Horses,	37½ " .....	93 75
H. R. Smith,	31 " .....	62 00
Horses,	32 " .....	80 00
Marshall Wentworth,	32½ " .....	65 00
Horses,	34½ " .....	86 25
Lee Adams,	34½ " .....	60 38
Allie Wentworth,	3 " .....	5 25
Harry Gray,	4 " .....	7 00
Roy Freeman,	33¼ " .....	58 19
Harry Dunn,	26½ " .....	53 00
Mike Sampson,	18 " .....	31 50
Will Wentworth,	3 " .....	5 25
D. J. Ward,	24 " .....	42 00
Harry Higgins,	½ " .....	88
Albert Wentworth,	16½ " .....	28 87
Reuben Smith,	½ " .....	1 00
Harry Small,	4 " .....	7 00
Albion Trumbull,	1½ " .....	2 62
Harry Thomes,	1½ " .....	2 62
Chauncey Bean,	1 " .....	1 75

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A. S. Wentworth,	1	day	.....	\$ 2 00
Horses,	1	"	.....	2 50
I. H. Berry, plank and supplies			.....	30 60
Simon Tibbetts, work and lumber			.....	20 61
B. R. Jordan, labor			.....	2 00
Frank Keniston,	"		.....	2 25
O. F. Richardson,	"		.....	1 50
Will Dacey,	"		.....	8 00
H. R. Smith,	"		.....	3 50
E. P. Fessenden,	"		.....	6 00
Eugene Higgins,	"		.....	88
Lee Adams,	"		.....	2 00
E. B. Dresser,	"		.....	1 50
A. C. Wentworth,		breaking roads	.....	23 23
A. C. Jewett,	"	"	.....	15 50
O. F. Richardson,	"	"	.....	19 00
C. B. Smith,	"	"	.....	5 00
George Moulton,	"	"	.....	19 00
Fred C. Alexander,	"	"	.....	3 50
C. E. Smith,	"	"	.....	18 35
Horace Orcutt,	"	"	.....	2 00
Will Dacey,	"	"	.....	33 00
Marshall Wentworth,	"	"	.....	10 00
H. R. Smith,	"	"	.....	25 00
Dana Libby,	"	"	.....	14 50
Henry Ingalls,	"	"	.....	92
Harry Gray,	"	"	.....	2 75
Leon Jack,	"	"	.....	3 00
Gardner Adams,	"	"	.....	4 88
L. P. Hale,	"	"	.....	1 92
D. J. Ward,	"	"	.....	1 28
Will Ordway,	"	"	.....	1 50
C. E. Cobb,	"	"	.....	13 05
Simeon Colby,	"	"	.....	18 50
John Colby,	"	"	.....	25 25
E. P. Fessenden,	"	"	.....	30 00
Charles Hill, repairing roller			.....	8 96
Reuben Smith, breaking roads			.....	1 50
Dana Libby, labor			.....	1 00
I. H. Berry, plank, repairs, etc			.....	21 24
Total				.....\$1,600 41

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Respectfully submitted,

E. P. FESSENDEN, Road Commissioner.



# Treasurer's Report

Geo. W. Gray, Treasurer, in account with town of Denmark.

DR.

To amount in treasury, Feb. 12, 1908.....	\$1,956 94	
To Rec'd State Treas , pensions.....	162 00	
"    "    roads....	208 12	
"    "    free high school.....	97 83	
"    "    school and mill fund....	590 13	
"    "    telephone, railroad tax.	1 37	
"    "    dog licenses refunded...	42 15	
Fryeburg tuition.....	18 25	
Brownfield tuition.....	28 50	
S. S. Smith, tuition.....	6 00	
W. C. Ordway, dog licenses.....	60 00	
M. M. Wentworth, Dr. Shaw tax, 1906	2 50	
Portland, Hartford case.....	80 00	
L. Trumbull, guardian Rose Cole....	66 00	
W. G. Nason.....	88 71	
Stove sold.....	2 00	
Rent of Merrifield farm, 1907.....	50 00	
Rent of Merrifield farm, 1908.....	35 00	
Merrifield goods sold.....	10 75	
Of W. B. Deasey, Coll. for 1908.....	6,063 72	
		<u>\$9,569 97</u>

CR.

By paid State pensions.....	\$ 162 00	
Dog tax.....	60 00	
State tax.....	1,002 23	
County tax .....	573 52	
Brownfield and Fryeburg Posts.....	10 00	
Orders .....	5,920 89	
Balance .....	1,841 33	
		<u>\$9,569 97</u>

Balance in treasury.....\$1,841 33

GEO. W. GRAY, Treasurer.

Denmark, Feb, 12, 1909.

# School Report

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## TO THE PUBLIC:

The custom of making an annual report of the conditions, management and necessities of the public schools of the town of Denmark, Maine, to the citizens and public by the Superintendent of the schools is for the worthy purpose of giving to them the facts relative to these institutions and their management for the current year. The interested public must be credited with having a just claim for a clear and complete report regarding these educational interests, for the support of which they are willingly taxed to maintain.

The report of the school year of 1908-1909, is submitted for your consideration which necessarily must include;

1.—The causes and influences which led to my acceptance of the superintendency of the schools of Denmark, Maine.

Most urgent solicitations came to me to candidate the pulpit of the Congregational Church of Denmark, Maine, and I arrived in the town, in January, 1907, and spent a month prospecting the locality and situation. I inquired of the leaders of the church for the conditions and facilities of the public schools. The reply was in substance, "We have had no high school this year, and the common schools are not first-class, as they lack grading and efficient management." I procured what further information I could of the, then, Superintendent of the town schools, who gave me a copy of an antiquated high school course and a verbal outline of the work done in the other schools. These I compared with some memoranda I had and found it would not be to my advantage to accept the call of the Denmark Church but I had left the decision to my family and they repeated their request for me to accept the call to this church instead of candidating a church, where there was a reputable academy but in a manifestly lower altitude. In the meantime, leaders of the church took me to see certain citizens and talk over the prospect of a high school for the next year and I was assured the warrant would be included, and the high school voted. As an assurance, a leader of the church volunteered to go to the town meeting and make a speech in its favor and oppose the leader of the opposition, with the remark, "And what I set my head to do I do it. If I had set my head to have been a millionaire, I would have been worth a million dollars today." Having these representations and assurances I accepted the call of

the Congregational church of Denmark, and my family arrived on April 10, 1907. Accordingly, the proposition for a public high school was voted, that spring, which met the requirements of my older children.

Soon after my decision to remain in Denmark for the present, it was rumored that there was a possibility of there being a vacancy in the superintendency of the schools and I was advised by several to accept the office if it was tendered to me, when I could manage the schools and arrange to have similar school privileges to those we had enjoyed in larger places, where we had resided. To this proposition I positively objected and declined to consider, though the request was often made by several parties, during the year, while others advised me to avoid the office.

With the closing of the year 1907, the church and I talked over the necessity and possibility of greater religious activities for the church and town and arranged for the continuance of my pastorate in Denmark, when I entered upon some new and aggressive plans of ethical and educational efforts.

Early in the year 1908, it became known there was to be a vacancy in the superintendency of the schools and the former efforts to persuade me to accept the position were renewed, with additional advocates both within and without the church. But I continued my refusal until several parties came to my home and labored with me, trying to show that it was my duty to the town and the church to accept the place and help raise the standard of the schools. I presented my objection but to no avail. Then it was, that I canvassed my officials of the church on the matter and with one or possibly two exceptions, they urged or advised me to accept, if the place was offered to me.

I went to the home of the Superintendent and inquired for her intentions as to her continuance in the office, which she was pronounced in declaring was not possible for her and would not accept it again. I promised if she would proceed with it, that, during her inability I would help her what I could in the way she might suggest. But, she insisted on her first position of concluding her term with the close of the school year, giving me her reasons for her emphatic declinations. I then began to realize my situation and the possibility of offending my friends and appearing ungrateful for their support, while I was, at the same time, in fear of meeting with a similar experience as I had been informed, had befallen my two immediate predecessors in the pastorate of the church, here.

It seemed I had but one other way out of the matter and that was to propose the reforms I thought should be made to make the schools profitable and up-to-date, and I made the propositions which I said I would insist upon if I was made the Superintendent of the

schools. Instead of discouraging my supporters and the two members of School Committee who had talked with me about the matter, they insisted that my propositions were just what were needed and that I was the man to put the schools on a better basis, and if I would accept the position and go ahead, as I thought it best, they would assist me in any way they could, if I only would let them know what I wanted them to do. Even then I did not promise to accept the position.

In further conversation with some of my parishioners it was advanced by several that for several years a professor of religion and a person identified with this church had been the Superintendent of the schools and they thought it wise and an advantage to the church that it should continue to be so. It was also said that it was the intention to try and elect a member of the church to the vacancy on the School Committee, which would give me good support to carry out the new plans and place the children more under the influence of the church and probably would have the effect of leading them to an attendance at the Sunday school and the services.

I was persuaded by these arguments and propositions, and at the Town Hall, on the day of the last town election, when the voting was through, I said to one of the School Committee that, if they could not find another to do the work we had talked about and they would unanimously elect me, permit me to manage the schools and support me in my efforts, that I would undertake the superintendency of the schools, and then I came home caring little for the result of their decision in regard to electing me to the office. On the evening of March 5, 1908, the committee had a meeting at which they unanimously elected me to the position and office of Superintendent of the schools of Denmark, Maine, and about ten o'clock that same night some of them came to my home and informed me of my election and for me to get the books of the former Superintendent and assume the duties of the office as soon as I could be sworn, and to fill out the present year until April 1st, when my term would begin. This request was made because my predecessor was then sick and unlikely to be able to attend to the duties of the office during the balance of the school year. Accordingly, I was sworn, obtained the records the next day and began attending to the duties as previously arranged. On March 13, 1908, the committee met at my home and arranged for the work of the year, repeating to me to go ahead and do as I thought for the best, to call on them for what help I needed and they would stand by me.

I accepted the position in good faith, to do the work for which I was duly elected and which I had determined to perform. I am the third of the regular pastors of this church and each of us in our turn

have yielded to the demands to undertake the betterment of the public schools of the town, which effort has cost great trouble and final removal and many enemies. If it had been that one of us had displeased some of the patrons it is possible for that one to have made a mistake but when three experienced clergymen in succession, are given a sad experience at the same task, with the same people and in so short a time, there must be something wrong with the place, the system, the management or those who control the affairs.

2.—The existing conditions found in the school matters of the town.

The high school was one only in name and did not meet the requirements of even the sub-standard grade of schools. There was no course of study, no requirement and the school gave no scholastic standing to the pupils who attended it. The parents and pupils selected the few studies they wished to pursue for the self designated period and the teacher heard and taught accordingly until the pupil simply quit attending and at the demand of themselves became self constituted high school graduates, mostly without certificate, diploma or formal exercises. Consequently, the acquired knowledge and practice of the English language was not only found defective but was below that which should be obtained in an ordinary grammar school. The student was deceived into believing he had a high school education and with this disqualification and false claim went out into the world a misrepresentation to impose his false culture on the innocent public which would but suffer if these students were employed on the recommendation of their having graduated from a high school, but evidently, had no meritorious claim to the honor. When a pupil selected, after three years' attendance at the Denmark institution, to complete the high school course elsewhere he became subject to the humiliation of being required to enter the other high school or academy as a Freshman and spend four more full years in course, when the three years spent at the home school availed nothing in credits.

The entrance requirement of the State law was violated both in the letter and the spirit. The State law requires the examination and certification of all pupils completing the grammar and common school studies authorizing their entrance and matriculation in the high school, which must be done by the authorities of the town where they reside, since each town attends to the business within it and other towns have no authority to settle, perform or authorize the business matters belonging to another. If neighboring towns were permitted to pass on and certificate the scholars of towns without standard schools they could canvass and certificate unqualified pupils who would arrange to attend their particular school and col-

lect tuition of the town charged with the residence of the pupil and at the same time ruin the pupil, the common schools and over-tax the people of the unfortunate town, while the town practicing the imposition could build, hold and support its standard school with very little tax on its own people and prevent the town at its mercy from ever advancing its own school standards. In the case of Denmark, after diligent efforts to learn the facts, these laws have been violated for several years past. Only a few of the pupils have obtained the required certificate to either attend their own high school or impose tuition on the town by entering other schools. Parties who have been able to support their children while off attending standard schools would rather their own town had no high school privileges and suffered a mere makeshift for the town that would make it an excuse to compel the tax-payers of Denmark to pay from \$150 to \$200 annually, and accept for their own children a defective education, though they were paying the full price of the standard. It is very doubtful, if any, except a very small amount at the most, has been legally paid out for tuition which should be returned to the school fund of the town.

These tuitions have not been re-imbursed to the town in full, so far as can be ascertained by the records, and can not be truthfully applied for, since the School Committee must make an affidavit, "that every pupil whose name is recorded above passed satisfactory final examinations in all the common school studies and is entitled to enter a secondary school of standard grade, and each declared his (or her) intention of pursuing one of the courses in the school entered opposite his (or her) name in the above return and that the amount of tuition entered in the above statement has actually been paid by the town from a fund raised by the town for that purpose." Presuming, the Committee knew this and were unwilling to risk an application to the State for re-imburement to the town, they have continued that illegal outlay for the benefit of the political few and have imposed quietness on the unsuspecting public tax-payer and patron of the schools and at the same time have tried to force the search light of exposure out of office or discredit him with the public, but to no avail though accompanied with pleas for silence.

The neighboring towns, which were reaping the benefit through the betrayal of the few, were unwilling for Denmark to have a high school of standard grade and after soliciting the aid of the Superintendent, who notified them of our efforts to secure a standard school, came among our pupils and patrons misinforming them, arguing against and trying to contract with them for their patronage or influence to the destruction of the educational interests of Denmark. When those efforts failed, parties phoned and visited among us to

show how impossible it was for the town to have a standard school and urged sending their pupils to their schools. A few were beguiled and left us. For the tuition of these the bills were sent us which we returned with a decline to pay and an explanation that we had lately secured a standard high school. Then it was our school was reported as failing to meet the requirements of the law and aided by some of our own people we were threatened with having our standard certificate revoked, when the School Committee, doubtless planning with the opposition, virtually refused to do even a small thing to save to the town the standard school they at first authorized and planned. Evidently it is difficult for small towns to support standard high schools, even at no greater expense than the inferior, since influences and pride sell the local privileges to build and maintain the interests of the larger towns, which, after succeeding in depriving the small towns of these privileges, are ready to point to their inconveniences and lack of facilities for culture. But, while other small towns about us have tried and been crowded out or been swallowed by their more powerful neighbors, Denmark's few anxious and irresistible citizens, who are interested in the real good of the town, have advanced and maintained themselves, though against great obstacles.

In the case of the common schools the conditions were no better than those of the high school. These schools were said to be "mixed schools" and that was their chief trouble. They were mixed and sadly mixed. Some of the teachers, who had taught in organized schools, declared they were "the most mixed up of any schools they had ever taught in," which I was conscious of from the start. The common schools were without a course of study for the guidance of the teacher or the systematic development of the pupils. The number of the reader pursued by the pupil, without regard to the knowledge of any of the other branches of study, determined the standing of the scholar, when in many instances a pupil was able to read in an advanced reader could not recite a lesson in grammar, was deficient in arithmetic, geography, history and spelling. When through the various readers the same student would be hardly half through the other requirements of the grammar grades. It was then the parents and the pupil would want to go to the high school and with the mere verbal permission of the Superintendent to "go," they entered the high school, where there was, necessarily, several classes in common school studies for them, at high school expenses. Besides, the common schools did not have a uniform set of text-books, only in a few instances, which required a great outlay for text-books, the inaction of those not used in a particular school, as many of them could not be carried to one of the other

schools, since the other schools were partly supplied with textbooks by a different firm or author. Consequently, each school of the town had its individual library of books, outline of operations and scholastic standing for the particular students of that particular school. When these various students appeared, for matriculation in the high school, those of no two of the schools possessed the same qualifications and made the high school a kind of educational leveller and evener, which required from one to two years of their high school attendance. In the instance of the Center school the course of instruction and qualification was in advance of the other schools, though there was a less marked distinction between this school and the one at East Denmark. This was possible in the absence of the adoption of a graded system of studies and textbooks for the town to apply to the schools as a whole.

The irregularity of the attendance of some of the pupils was a drawback to the schools and a serious injury to pupils, themselves. For no apparent cause and in violation of the laws of the Statutes of the State pupils absented themselves from the sessions of the schools, sometimes to work and at other times to play. Some of these truants' school books were found, after being soaked by the rains, and brought to me completely ruined and when I waited on their parents about their truancy I was given a disinterested reply for my interest in their children's welfare. The absence of pupils works a hardship on the teacher and the pupil, since the recitations missed must be made up; they work a hardship on the pupil who has a flaw in his or her connected acquirements, which they must remedy or sustain a weak place in their knowledge whenever the strain comes on that particular place, and it is a damage to the other pupils and the school, who are prevented from advancing or are hindered because of the delinquent. Another reason is, the State law prohibits the employment of children, between the ages of 7 and 15 years, during the sessions of the schools, to which they belong by virtue of their location and residence. The law is specific in its requirement for the regular attendance of all children between those ages, unless excused as provided by the statute. These laws were violated to the injury of all these interests.

The School Committee, at the first, recognized the imperative law of the compulsory attendance of these children and ordered action against the persons responsible for their absence, copies and records of which are in the hands of the Superintendent under date of April 28, or the second day of the spring term of the present school year. This was an order in keeping with the law and willingly subscribed to by the Committee until objected to by certain parties and the wish of a member of the Committee, who was refused to be permitted and



allowed to go to the school and take one of the scholars to operate his milk wagon, at his pleasure, when his august authority was questioned and his pride humiliated. This was more than he could bear and he immediately sought some way to avoid the law and the order, previously made, which the Superintendent was carrying out, and which the law required of him. Parties waited on the Superintendent for permission to keep their pupils out of school that they might have them at home to assist in the spring work but he told them he was helpless, as the law did not permit him to grant such privileges against the interests of the pupils and the schools. One pupil in particular had made the request to be kept in school for the good of his education and that he be not required to remain out of school to work and loose it, which the party held secondary to the matter of some work they desired to get out of their ward for the pupil's maintenance. That they might have an excuse for keeping these two pupils at home they were given doses of calomel and furnished with an excuse for their absence but the officer went after them and the next day these pupils were back in school. Then this guardian of an orphan boy intrusted to his care and this member of the school committee who wanted the other boy for his milk wagon, together, took these two boys to a certain physician in Bridgton and told him, "these two boys are all right but we want to keep them out of school and beat the Superintendent and if you will give us a certificate of ill health for them we will pay you for it." But the physician refused them, though it is reported they repeated the request, to be again refused. Foiled in first one and then another attempt they finally worked the plan for an unlawful school at the town expense, under their own control and to which the scholars may go at pleasure, while the parents are unsuspectingly lead to accord these men the opportunity to obtain their ends at the expense of the pupils and the public. But such a school has no standing and the work done has no credit. The pupils who are not in the execution of the course of study can not expect to continue in the class with those who regularly labor and perform the allotted task. Those who have no respect for their oath of office and who consider their own end as paramount to the interests entrusted to them are unworthy of the public trusts, whether that trust be a Federal, State, County or a small town office, and malfeasance in office is as criminal in the small trust as in the larger office and should be given equal condemnation.

The schools were virtually without any disciplinary regulations, except in a few instances where the teachers had introduced such rules as they saw proper for their respective schools, which did not have proper authority. These did not serve the standards of a first

class training. An education that cultures implies more than a knowledge of books, but includes a knowledge of the strong and weak points of self and the training and restraints of corrective and limiting discipline. A capable mind destitute of a disciplined heart, a controlling will and restrained desires will make more criminals than moralists. The most effectual and successful criminals are persons with educated minds but lack self discipline and whose evil natures carry them to lawlessness. The public schools having the early formation of the character of the coming citizens must not only teach and train the minds of the children but also give them wholesome discipline, habiting them to rule, method, self-restraint and the rights of others. Those in charge of these youth should have this training themselves, be capable and conscientious in providing and administering such wholesome discipline or the careful parent should not be required to expose their children to the dangers of a careless management, vicious lawlessness and criminal process, which will in time fill the community with violators of every law of man and God, who will sooner or later support their kind for office and social preference, until the most sacred things are meddled with or prostituted for their wicked ends and dishonesty is resorted unto for mercenary and social advantages. If we are to avoid raising this class of citizens the schools must have and apply good discipline at the hands of superior and not inferior authority.

The lack of discipline in the schools may account for some of the lawlessness among us and should move us to inaugurate these advantages for the growing youth, though viciously opposed by those whose training has been neglected, for whom there must be great pity but not to the extent of sacrificing the future interests of the children committed by the parents and circumstances to those in charge of the public schools.

The schools of Denmark were without this discipline and children went to and from school at any and all hours without permission or explanation, and mostly without the knowledge of the parents. Pupils misbehaved and defied punishment or correction, supported in many instances by their parents. Bad language was used on the school grounds, fighting and throwing stones at each other was common on the way home from school, time and again children had their clothes ruined and torn by other pupils, some had their clothing stolen or poorer exchanged for better, girls who were boarding in the village while attending school had their valises opened and their clothing scattered about to public view. questionable and unmentionable conduct was reported, teachers were locked out of their schools, petitions were signed in agreement to forcibly carry out the teacher of one of the schools, an out-of-town pupil

whose parents were paying his tuition was shamefully beaten by the local scholars and threatened with further violence until the teacher and the Superintendent took the matter in hands, the high school became so lawless that the principal was forced to use violence to maintain order, followed by vicious parties in the town counselling the pupils to do more violence or resent the punishment when the Superintendent investigated and found the principal was justified under the circumstances, one high school pupil had gone so far as to discharge a revolver out the window of the high school room and resented the reproof administered by the principal and left the school and has since attended school in a neighboring town for which the citizens of Denmark have been paying tuition, pupils annoyed the stores and neighboring houses and fields, procuring their parents' and others' mail and often losing it until complained of to the Superintendent, a member of the School Committee went to the school and called out of the school a girl pupil who was some ten years his junior and later eloped with her, and a teacher reported she was injured by the violence of a pupil and was compelled to resign her school on account of which she was confined to her bed for some time, are some of the instances of the lack of proper discipline in the schools. The greater part of the citizens and parents had been through the same kind of training and would recite accounts of their own experiences in the presence of the children, with a boastful air and manner of approval of the conduct and punishment, because it had always been and any attempt to introduce any other condition and procedure was not to be expected or tolerated. In case of any attempt to make a change from these conditions the scholars should remain away from the schools until they had forced the granting of these liberties. But, to the credit of the town, there are some of the citizens who have not agreed with continuing these conditions and sentiments but have manifested a readiness and have actually given substantial and sacrificing support in the effort that has been made for better discipline and a higher sentiment and training.

It had been the habit to defer hiring teachers for the schools until within a short time of beginning the schools, when teachers out of town, without positions, would accept the low wages offered by the town, to the sacrifice of school interests. This was within keeping with the idea that quality was no matter of consideration, if there could only be a session of school. The examinations were not made a test of qualifications or in view of keeping the real purpose of the law. An instance, was in the case of a teacher, who related the circumstance to me, whom the Superintendent inquired if she was related to a certain family in town and receiving an affirmative reply,

was passed, certificated and hired on that fact, without any further examination.

The buildings were and are not in good repairs, though there was \$250.00 appropriated for them. The reason is evident and can be explained, easily. The matter of repairs has been the opportunity for the committee to get pay for their services and that has been carefully and systematically managed by and for them and their friends. The committee has held to the repair work to supply themselves with work and an income when they were otherwise out of employment, when they would hire themselves, vote the money to themselves and require the Superintendent to draw their money or orders without voice or protest. This labor has had to be repeated every little while or as often as these men were out of work in the town where there was little means of gaining a livelihood. The work was poorly done, as a usual thing, by inexperienced and poor workmen who put in the time or a part of it at first-class or excessive wages. These bills have been presented, without being itemized and for amounts almost three times greater than the same piece of work would be valued at if done for private individuals. The Statute makes the hiring and selling of material to State institutions by those in office, who vote upon their own employment and bill, a criminal offense to be severely punished, a violation which is practiced by the method of the committee. The Superintendent refused to be a partner to the violation and the system of graft which he felt was being practiced, when efforts were made to detract public attention from the violation to him, by awakening public sentiment for them, to things, nobody has yet known what, though earth and sky has been ransacked. The repairs were not made this year though the material has been bought and paid for, while the school buildings have gone to further ruin, the pupils have suffered without complete windows, except when the Superintendent made the repairs to prevent sickness or the building from having the appearance of a sanitorium for the treatment of pulmonary diseases. Presumably, these repairs will have to wait until the way is clear to finish the work that was began and draw the annual dividend from the repair fund, by the order of some unsuspecting or less conscientious servant of the committee. This is a matter needing some careful consideration.

It was found that there was comparatively few records of the business of the school matters and these were not of a reliable character. The financial accounts were in such a shape that it required several efforts of both the Superintendent and members of the committee to get them straightened out but it could not be done. When we had done the best we could and made the report to the State Department



our reports were rejected at four different times and were returned to us for correction and not being willing to make an affidavit to falsehoods we tried and agreed on a compromise with the Department by the cancellation of about \$125.00 of missing funds and the promise to raise and refund to one of the accounts the amount of the misappropriated funds, which was all that then could be done and safeguard the town against the loss of its State money. We do not say the shortage was due to any dishonesty, that we do not know, but at the least it was due to poor accounts or bookkeeping. The records of the minute business is virtually nothing and is not in evidence of the work done by either the committee or the Superintendent, as to orders, rules, monies or resolutions. These should be carefully kept in case of future need and reference.

The business methods of the committee might throw some light on the state of the school affairs which is a serious matter in case of any complaint or investigation. The record of the present year is probably the record of many years and sufficient to show the seriousness of the situation. Soon after the town meeting of 1908, the committee held their first meeting and partly organized by electing the secretary and superintendent and then adjourned, without completing their organization by electing a chairman, when the retiring member of the committee personally assumed the chairmanship, a custom he claims has prevailed of late years. Though advised by lawyers and citizens, together with the State Superintendent, they have refused to complete the organization and the action of the first meeting stands only so far as the partial organization was made. In that case there has been no organization with a chairman to entertain and put and declare the passage of motions and the business is without authority in law. The customs of Denmark do not make Maine Statutes and parliamentary usages, which are presumed to meet the requirements of the law in the absence of any specific legislation. Consequently, all the business transacted, contracts made, monies spent, etc., are doubtful, and may be declared illegal and void. If that is so declared, upon complaint the monies spent by the administration of this committee may be recovered and embezzlement proceedings be instituted. As to that I do not care to be quoted as authority but a lawyer, who claimed to thoroughly look the matter up, gave it as his opinion that there was no doubt that was the present status of the case. The committee has no authority out of a called meeting at which they must pass on all matters coming under their control and make the same a matter of record, delegating some one to transact the order, if not provided by law. But, in no case can two or three meet and informally decide to do a certain matter of business and then go and carry the order into effect, without

first having properly voted upon it, and making it a matter of record. They can not, then, do anything officially in an assumed capacity, belonging to any office to which they are not eligible for election and is provided by the statute or they have previously delegated. The practice of the committee has been to decide and transact any business wherever any two of them might chance to meet and agree, which the superintendent has refused to recognize as binding upon him or anyone else. The drawing of orders, the instructions issued to the Superintendent when matters of importance have been involved or anything affecting the schools that have been ordered in this way he has refused to recognize and would not do, unless it was something of a temporary nature. At a business meeting there is seldom a resolution introduced or a motion put or declared carried and little order observed in the business, and the secretary is often required to inquire if that is a decision or a discussion. There are many instances that there has been no formal adjournment but first one and then another leaves until the secretary is left alone and these meetings are closed without adjournment. Their attention has been repeatedly called to this omission but it avails no longer than that immediate meeting, when the same is sure to occur at the next.

The superintendent has been told to "shut up, you're not a member, you're not running this meeting, you must do as we say, you're a disgrace" and "go home if you want to we don't want you." These are some of the ways the meetings are adjourned by the School Committee of Denmark, who claim to have the school matters of the public in hand for the welfare of the children and the coming citizens of this great nation and whom we are training to do the business at some later day.

These are some of the discouraging conditions, mostly of more than one year's standing, found to exist and with which I was confronted, during the year. In an effort to adjust these conditions and effect reforms necessary for the good of the schools and the tax payers it has required more or less determination, carefulness, firmness and aggressiveness, which I have tried to exercise, without fear or favor, in my desire to be faithful in the office to which I was unanimously elected. How well I have done my duty is for the decision of the order loving public. And how well the patrons have aided in these efforts to make better conditions for themselves and their children may be learned by considering the support they have given these causes and the treatment of their public servant.

3.—The efforts made in the interest of the schools during the current year.

These efforts whether intentionally or unintentionally for these interests, are to be credited to their various sources and operators,

which we will try to do, that each may receive due credit for their untiring efforts and sacrifices in the behalf of the schools, the moral and scholastic culture of the children, the commercial, social and general reputation of the town at home and abroad and the building up of its attractive interests.

The State and town contributed or appropriated enough money to meet all the requirements arising from the demands of good schools and buildings. Some funds were a little short of meeting the necessary expenses of their department, while other funds were in excess of the expenses paid from them. The State is more than \$215.00; in arrears with the town on the high school claims but increased its appropriation by about \$200.00, for the common schools, last year. If all the disputed bills should be deducted from the amount in the treasury there would remain cash on hand: Repair account about \$175.00; Common school account, \$225.00 or thereabout. It is safe to say, there are more than \$600.00 and probably upwards of \$800.00 of school funds on hand, including what we claim due the town from the State and repair funds. This cannot be accurately stated since the school year terminates later than the town year, but this is closely approximated and is a safe estimate. The records show nothing so favorable to the town as having occurred of late years. It is a fact, that the schools can be made better and at a less expense to the town than they have been, if good business methods are employed and honesty is practised as it should be in public office and positions. The requirements of a standard high school can be met with a very little increase of the town appropriation than at the present appropriation and it is barely possible that in another year the same amount that has been expended or will be in case of having a sub-standard school, will be sufficient to fully support a school of standard grade for the town. It will do it if public money is used as carefully as private money and school fights are eliminated when unnecessary expenses are made.

The talk before and the plans of the School Committee after the town meeting were for the grading, discipline and reorganizing of the schools to comply with the law and greater efficiency. The records of April 1, 1908, read, "It was decided to proceed to grade the public common and high schools of the town, re-arrange a course or courses of study for four years for the Denmark high school, and to formulate plans and report the advisability of organizing the Denmark high school into a school of Standard grade as per the State requirement." Then follows the assignment of the members of the committee to assist the Superintendent in effecting this resolve "in arranging, grading, courses and changes in the public schools as above recommended: Grading public schools to and including the

8th grade, A. C. Boyd, assisted by C. E. Pingree; arranging 4 years' course or courses in the high school, A. C. Boyd, assisted by S. H. Smith; to investigate, formulate plans and report on the plans and advisability of making a Standard high school for Denmark, Maine, A. C. Boyd, assisted by A. S. Colby." All these resolves were carried out to the letter. On May 2, 1908, "the course of study as arranged and recommended for the common schools was read and adopted by a full vote." This is the course and rules now followed in the schools which includes the adoption of the text books by which act the same must be followed for five years or be liable to a fine of \$500.00 to be recovered by any one aggrieved by the violation who makes the complaint.

By these rules the lawlessness and irregularity are prohibited and the course of study make the work of the various schools uniform and the same in one and all of them; the pupils do not select a few and reject other studies, going a few years and then deciding for themselves to go to high school, where they vex the life out of the principal, who can not arrange them to the high school requirement and avoid the penalty to the town for teaching common school studies while using the State appropriation for high school work, but are now required to remain in a place where those texts are taught at about one-half the expense of the high school course; the pupil takes a thorough course, covering the essentials of a fundamental education which if he is unfortunate to receive nothing more, has a fair knowledge of common English, and in case an incompetent teacher is employed there is a certain amount of work prescribed for the term and the pupil may go forward in spite of the circumstances. At the end of the term and at the close of the school year the Superintendent makes a thorough examination of the work done by each and must sign the card of each pupil in recognition of their standing and advancement, before the teacher is released from the contract. This uniform method will in time cut down the text-book expense of the town as we can carry the books from one school to another as they are needed and not have them lying idle until some pupil is ready in after years to use them, when it is probable other books will be thought better or some book company has talked another author into the graces of the school authorities.

At a meeting on May 11, 1908, it was voted, "The proposed rules and Course of Study for a high school of Standard Grade for Denmark, Maine, were submitted by the Superintendent of Schools, read and considered, with favorable decision. The same were laid over for future action and determination after receiving the decision of the State Superintendent upon the Course and propositions already



submitted to him, when the Committee would consider further plans for the high school." These plans, etc., were now in the hands of the State Superintendent and if he approved of them it was for the committee to provide for the carrying out of the propositions and they decided to await his report, which established the standard school. This same action was repeated at the meeting of the committee on July 27, 1908, when was added to this action, of adopting the rules and course, "and agreed to, even if the high school is not made a standard by the State Superintendent." The State approved the high school as a standard and it has been operated as such during the year. But when it was found to displease those who depended on sending their pupils out of town to school and draw tuition fees from the town the Committee have tried to have the standard school reduced to a sub-standard to please those few at the expense of the town and schools.

The Committee made some small repairs on two of the buildings at East Denmark and on the high school building to the amount of about \$40.00 of an account, beside a bill for material not yet used. It is claimed, that more than thirty dollars of this bill was expended on the repairs of the high school building for painting the little wood-work inside and for the labor alone and putting about two feet square of a patch of new shingles on the roof. This bill represents something like fifteen days work, which two experienced men declared was some ten days in excess of what the work really required and when the bill was presented the Superintendent asked for an itemized bill, suspecting there were items to be charged to other than the repair fund and learned it was all for labor. The record reads, "A bill was presented by S. H. Smith, was approved by A. S. Colby, who made the motion, and S. H. Smith seconded it and C. E. Pingree declared it 'voted.' The Superintendent protested." Herein the Committee hired themselves, voted their own bill which was questioned and is forbidden by the Statute. The Superintendent refused to make out and sign an order on the town treasurer for this bill as he had reasons to believe was illegal.

The rope on the flag-pole on the Colby school house came down and one of the committee replaced it, which took less than half an hour for which he brought in a bill for \$3.00 which was approved and voted by the committee but the Superintendent refused to draw an order for such an amount. Other like bills have been presented with like results and refusals by the Superintendent who refused to be a partner to the system of graft.

After adopting the course of study and the text-books for the common schools, members of the committee, without a meeting, ordered and smuggled into the unlawful Center school, now illegally

held, a lot of new and different text-books which they ordered, and had the bill sent to the Superintendent who refused to pay for the same. If this bill is paid and the support of this illegal school is drawn from the school funds of the town, making this school a lawful school, then the fine for changing the text-books within five years is operative and there is a complaint held in readiness to enforce the \$500.00 fine.

Two members of the committee, without a meeting or a vote went to the Center school building and broke open the door of the room where the Superintendent had his stock of books and supplies and removed therefrom whatever they chose of which no account was kept as required. This was not necessary since the books for the schools were placed in their respective rooms and the Superintendent was only a few doors away but was presumably for the purpose of disarranging the stock and give the Superintendent annoyance, when he could not safeguard his account of stock. This is quite probable as there was a manifest displeasure on their part when he gathered the unused books together and there was found such a surplus, revealing extravagance and a waste of the school funds and want of good management. The surplus of some text-books is enough to supply the schools of a town of equal size of Denmark. By permission of the committee the Superintendent had arranged to exchange these and some old books for those needed at a good price but after the new books were ordered they withdrew the permission and had to pay for the new stock and keep the old which is likely can not be sold at a like advantage, since the adoption of text-books and having obtained a supply for years to come.

In making the selection of the out-of-town teachers the Superintendent requested the committee to aid him in such selections before he had hired them and such as they would be willing to approve. Several were selected who later declined to accept and were not hired by the Superintendent, who obtained other applicants and hired them, while some of these approvals were hired and later, their contracts were approved by the committee. The approval of the selection had nothing to do with the approval of the hiring and the committee were aware of this but when it was to please and aid them in carrying out one of their ends they tried to make the approval of the selection to mean the approval of the hiring of these teachers. The hiring of the teachers was not for weeks after the approval of the selections and in some instances until after their examinations, which were solely in the hands of the Superintendent, who could not hire them if they did not pass the required examinations.

In case of the Center school and the teacher for the spring term, who has tried to hold over was an effort to accomplish a matter

which could not be done legally and the committee resorted to trickery to create an excuse for an illegal purpose. When this teacher was selected by the Superintendent with the concurrence of the committee it was long before she was hired, her examination was held and before any contract was or could be made as the law requires the teachers to pass a satisfactory examination in certain branches, and no contract can be made before that fact is known and certified to. This teacher did not appear for examination when the other teachers did but came the Friday before the Monday the schools were to begin, when she was over a day and a half taking the examination others took in less than parts of two half days and then signally failed. To make it possible for the school to begin as announced an oral examination was given and she was certificated for the spring term with the understanding if she gave satisfaction and took the examination in the branches in which she failed or was weak she would be hired for the balance of the school year. It developed she knew nothing about graded schools and it was necessary for the Superintendent to open the school and assign the work, which he did. When assigning the work she told the Superintendent she had not taught certain things of the course and she would not do so and she did not during the term, and it became evident she could not but he told her it could not be neglected after that term. She made repeated requests for him to come to the school and see about the course which he did. Repeatedly she came to his home objecting to first one thing and then another. He had but one key to the library and she requested to be allowed to store her school supplies in there and he loaned her his key until she carried it to Naples and having need to get in the library for supplies for other schools and could not he made the request that she leave the key. Then it was she told him she had the key and would keep it but he procured it and kept it, when she went to the janitor to procure one of the keys the Superintendent was having made. After that she misused him at his home and when he visited the school. She also told the Superintendent and his wife that parties where she was boarding and members of the committee were advising her to do things different to the instructions of the Superintendent and abused the Superintendent for insisting on some rules that had been made. He saw she was not competent to teach a good school and allowed matters to go on until the end of the term, when she asked him about the next term and if she could teach it. He told her he was not satisfied with her work and was not ready to promise her the school until he could have a talk with her, when she became angry and abused him. She then had the committee go to her school and make out her reports and accompany her to the Superintendent, when it was evident she could not

close her school records and the committee had to assist her. The committee had been making these visits to the school and to her home after working hours until they had ruined the school. The Superintendent gave her an order on the town for her wages but she was to return the next week and complete her reports which she failed to do, when he wrote to her requesting her to come as arranged and to bring one of her parents with her but having gotten her money she refused to come and the business has not been finished. Later, he informed her he would not hire her and her certificate was cancelled, and so reported to the committee, who accepted the report.

Members of the committee wishing to retain certain pupils out of school with others conceived to keep the Center school in their own hands and run it in violation of the law and assumed the duties of the Superintendent. To make it possible they, among themselves, inserted over the signature of the Superintendent the words, "for the year 1908," on the face of the certificate and on the back of it, "Hired for the year 1908," to which she testified under oath as being on the certificate when it was handed to her by the Superintendent. But, on cross examination admitted that she had written it at the request of the Superintendent, whom she declared was unable to write it as he had his hands full of books, at the time. To this the Superintendent testified was false and so declares. He has reasons to believe it was done on a certain Sunday in Naples when it is reported two of the committee visited there and arranged to and conspired to carry on this unlawful school.

When the Fall term of school began this teacher assumed the duties of teacher and was notified of her unlawful relation and forbidding her to punish the pupils. This she did, whipping 23 on one occasion, striking 10 of the very small children over the head and cutting several of their faces. Some parents and children gathered at the home of the Superintendent and made threats when he counselled peace and if they would return home he would see after the matter and if there were sufficient reasons for it, he would take the case up in the law court, which he did and she was found not to be a legal teacher and was guilty of assault and battery and was fined from which she appealed. The demonstrations at the time were in keeping with the other lawlessness of the place and the ignorant interference of persons opposed to order and decency.

The efforts to continue this unlawful school has been to the injury of the pupils and will endanger the finances for another year, while any attempt to pay the expenses of it will most probably result in endless litigation.

An action of the committee which has been more or less a matter of discussion and blame has been the action taken to enforce the law

of compulsory attendance at school. The committee early resolved to enforce this law and when the Superintendent reported on the first day of the spring term of school that some scholars were out of school, S. H. Smith phoned to the Superintendent he would be in the village that evening and would see him and take some action to compel their attendance. He came and wrote a notice and signed it, dating it the next day and is as follows: "To the Burnham & Morrill Canning Co.—Frank C. Jewett, Agent. You are hereby notified that one Roy Wales an employee of your company is under the age of fifteen years and at this present date the common schools of this Town of Denmark, Me., are in regular session and by your employ one Roy Wales is detained from the session of the schools, for which your company will be held responsible under the law, if you continue him in your employ from the time of the serving of this notice. Signed, S. H. Smith, Superintendent School Committee, Denmark, Me.—Denmark, Me., April 28, 1908." This is in his own hand writing and was left with the Superintendent for the signature of C. E. Pingree, when the maker and signer would call for it and serve it on the company. Instead, a meeting was held on the 28th and before any action was taken the Superintendent requested C. E. Pingree to have a talk with the Wales boy and the Superintendent called him into his house and after the talk, in which the boy was told he must go to school or what would be the consequences, the Superintendent made further request for this member of the committee to go and talk with the boy's father, which was done. When the meeting was resumed C. E. Pingree brought up the matter and the record of that date reads, "The truancy of Roy Wales was considered and C. E. Pingree reported that he had the promise of Mr. Frank Wales, the father, that Roy Wales would start to the common school on Monday morning, May 4, 1908, and action was deferred in the case until after that date, namely, May 4, 1908." There was nothing wrong in the action of the committee as the law required the attendance of all pupils between the ages of 7 and 15 years. Shortly after the committee reversed itself and placed the blame of this action on the Superintendent and when confronted with their record made first one and then another excuse to permit the absence of this boy and others until the matter was appealed to the State Superintendent and he ruled against their position and the pupils were required to attend school until the committee could effect the running of a lawless institution with an illegal teacher and later misappropriate public funds to maintain, which they have diligently tried to do.

The committee, two of which are members of the Congregational Church of which the Superintendent is pastor, have tried in every possible way to discredit the Superintendent so to make it appear

favorable to them in the matter of graft and his charge of incompetency. Attacks have been made on his house, his family, his business, his life and his person, in which the committee or members of it have taken a prominent part with the effort of the church to protect them from prosecution. When every other method had failed two of this committee called a meeting in the Masonic Hall, which the Superintendent attended, on the eve of the trial of one of them for an assault and battery on a boy in school of which he was confessedly guilty but was released because he did not do him any great bodily harm, where they followed him about the hall, throwing their coats upon the floor, calling him unbecoming names and striking him with the fist, preventing his leaving the room but when confronted with the matter they denied it as they have done other matters, with these orders and vexations the school year has been spent in various labors.

The committee has necessitated much more work for the Superintendent than was necessary, requiring him to put in many more hours than the schools would require under ordinary circumstances. An account of the hours was kept and was divided into days at the wages provided by the Statute and it was found to be a bill of more than \$200.00, not including what certain educators recommended some \$500.00 for grading the schools. If this bill is high it is due to the diligence of the committee in making it so, while they have neglected almost all the duties imposed on them by the law. But in an effort to contribute to the reform of the town and the greater efficiency of the schools the Superintendent has receipted the town for \$125.00 for his services for the school year to March 1, 1909.

The conveyance of the pupils is a problem of considerable magnitude and costs annually, almost as much as the cost of maintaining a high school for the town. There has been paid out a little more than \$400.00 this year for conveyance, which is considerable less than was paid out last year. It is possible to decrease this bill by adopting definite rules of limiting the distance and the payment for service according to distance and circumstances and not left to individual demands.

There has been no tuitions paid this year for scholars going out of town to school during the present high school year but the appropriation has been more than paid out for the tuition of those who attended school out of town last year. By having a Standard high school this year the town of Denmark has avoided a net expense of more than \$150.00 and probably as much as \$200.00 in excess of what the State would have refunded, beside what many of the parents saved in incidentals required in sending their children away to school, when they would have been deprived of their personal super-

vision of their children, together, with the assistance those children render with the duties at home. Those who would have had to remain at home have had equal privileges with the pupils of other towns, which is an inestimable privilege. The course of study will favorably compare with the schools where some of the town scholars have been attending, for which the town has been paying tuition, and is a great advance over the previously practiced system and curriculum. There is enough high school funds on hand with the unpaid state appropriation for this year to maintain the standard high school for the remaining term, but if the school is reduced to a sub-standard it will require the addition of almost \$100.00, for the out-of-town tuitions for this term alone, which parties are trying to beguile the citizens in voting for their personal benefit, under pretence of economy, which is an unrighteous scheme of the few.

These are some of the early actions of the school management and some of the later barriers themselves placed in the way of the superintendent, who has been entrusted in carrying out these resolves under the provisions of the law and his previous instructions, with the difficulties arising from an incompetent source of instructions.

The superintendent arranged and carried out the plans of grading the common schools adopted by the committee, going to the schools, where it was necessary and classifying the scholars and adjusting the new system; keeping the schools supplied that the teachers might be able to carry out the rules and grading; looking after delinquent scholars, in the absence of a truant officer, which is impossible to secure on account of the unpleasantness caused by those, who constantly meddle with business not belonging to them; economizing in every possible way, (giving one week more school than last year) and at the same time doing justice to the schools and pupils; visiting the schools whenever necessary even in excess of the requirements of the law and looking after every detail coming under his supervision; hiring and examining the teachers in the courses prescribed by law and certifying them, investigating their reports and drawing their orders; examining the grading of each scholar in the schools and certifying them for the next term or year, while he held the examinations of the graduates from the common schools, giving them diplomas and certificates to the high school department; visiting almost every home to procure a correct school census by which more persons of school age were procured than had been previously reported and the school appropriation was increased by the state; he has made the contracts for the purchase of fuel and its preparation and for janitors of the various schools; arranging for the transportation of the scholars of the various schools; gathering load after load of unused school books at the schools and collecting them at the Center building and assort-



ing them, building shelves and arranging all books in their order; attending to the correspondence and records of the upwards of twenty meetings of the committee; keeping the accounts of the various departments of the school funds; holding the final examinations of the high school graduates and arranging for their graduation; making the necessary trips to various meetings and places in order to look after the school affairs in an intelligent manner, for which he seldom made any charge for his actual expenses or at least only a partial charge; to safeguard the interests of the schools against the treachery of other towns and local parties; making small repairs occasionally, on the buildings, when otherwise neglected; arranging, instituting and defending the Standard high school and such work as was necessary for him in operating it; purchasing many of the small supplies and advancing the money for them, so to avoid the many small accounts, and many other duties arising from the activities in the office, while he attended the various duties of his pastoral relations.

This has required many a night sitting, which was done to give the town good schools and recover these interests from the carelessness and impositions into which they had been allowed to fall. The opposition to him had no effect to decrease his activity or the offer to pay him to resign, to abandon the task he had contracted to undertake and which he has tried to follow and perform to the best of his ability.

The teachers, Mr. Jesse L. Rowe, Mrs. L. Gertrude DeMass, Miss Amy L. Smith and Miss Georgie F. Gatchell of the common schools have done excellent work in their respective schools, under the disadvantage of the introduction of the graded system, which they have carried out to the satisfaction of the patrons generally and their loyalty to the interests committed to them is worthy of mention. Miss Gertrude Mary Parsons of North Newcastle, Maine, was hired and was placed in charge of the Principalship of the town high school in its first efforts as a school of standard grade, and a better selection could not have been made. The high school has had two terms of most efficient work by Miss Parsons, without a single incident of unpleasantness from her administration. Her efficiency is voiced in a letter by the State Superintendent to the local Superintendent of Jan. 2, 1909. "As a result of my visit I found that, in the main, the conditions as shown in your returns and in my certificate are being met. The instruction is excellent, the spirit of the school is good and the students are apparently pursuing the course profitably." The trial of the graded system for the common schools and the course and rules for the standard high school have been made and established and leaves a clear field for the school work for coming years.



The good offices of some of the citizens of Denmark, places the town under special obligations to them. It was the timely efforts and labors of Mr. Isaac H. Berry in assisting the Superintendent with the accounts and making an adjustment of the local affairs, when the State refused to approve the school accounts of last year, that the State money was not jeopardized, though the case was serious enough that the school committee requested, at a meeting on May 11, 1908, when these matters were in controversy and could not be corrected, "The committee requested that the State Superintendent should not be sent for to visit Denmark, Maine, owing to the school conditions here." The committee arranged and had the State Superintendent visit the town when they had covered up or planned to keep him from observing the things of which they were afraid and he could or would not take time to investigate. Prof. Freeman H. Sanborn, the former principal of the Denmark high school, has rendered valuable services to the school interests of the town by assisting in the effort for a standard school, consenting to teach any classes the principal could not for want of time, and at a very nominal compensation, but was not needed. Mr. Sanborn has given of his time and means to maintain the standard school and when it was necessary to have an apparatus for the laboratory he canvassed the friends of the school and raised enough money, ordered and delivered over \$90.00 worth of apparatus for the use of the school, which the pupils used as long as it was required but which the committee, in their efforts to ruin their own school, threatened not to permit the use of by the students, though no action was taken by them. Mr. Fred Sanborn, a business man of the town, whose interest for the good of the town and the kindly efforts for the privileges of those who are unable to go away to school has prompted him to make sacrifices and advance means to assist the effort to maintain the schools at a respectable standing of efficiency. The town treasurer, Mr. George W. Gray, has advanced and loaned the school funds, hundreds of dollars, to meet the school obligations of the town for school purposes, without interest, and has made special contributions of his private means as have others, whom we have no room to mention.

The many friends of good schools have loaned their influence and given of their means, in addition to their taxes, to help on the worthy cause of efficient schools and are ready to give further assistance if needed or to oppose any effort to return to the old system of inefficiency and political graft.

There has been some noise made by those who are opposed to all moral restraints and who are always eager for the opportunity to oppose a clergyman as the constitutional nature of their wicked and

unholy qualities assumes. There are those who are ready to institute a persecution of any who will not give some kind of sanction to their practices, immoral tendencies and reputations or amusements, which are causes for the shame of half civilized people. Others with an eye on any political advantage, are ready to turn their coat or change their position on any question for a bribe or political preference and care nothing for honor, their own judgment or the interest of the enterprises of the public but are ready to sell them all and pretend other convictions for a little popularity with the vicious and more unfortunate class of the public. These may be found going from one loafing place to another to learn the latest news, slander and talk, to which they add their small contribution to increase the town talk and awaken public sentiment among the meddler and the gossip to prevent the private and public interests from rising above the level comprehension and social strata of their time worn positions and practices. This has been the trouble with the interests of Denmark both in town, school, church and social affairs and it is not to be wondered at that the effort to advance the schools of the town would meet with resistance from those who know nothing of the world outside of their own village, and are found to suppose the way their ancestors went and did, are the only possible ways leading to the goal of uncertainty, which is the general acceptance of the skeptical.

The schools have been almost talked and gossipped to death by a class who have neither ability or the propriety of not meddling with affairs belonging to the duties of others. As a consequence of this practice and the folly of the people, the town of Denmark, 10 miles square, with its natural resources and 600 people are without an open church, a physician, a constable, trial justice, lawyer, a respectable general store or an enterprise giving the citizens a means to gain a livelihood. There are more than one-half of the schoolhouses closed, two churches disbandoned and the other closed, largely because of moral conditions in it, a large per cent. of the houses are vacant, mercantile wagons make their weekly visits and sell more goods in a week than all the local stores do in a month, no preacher ever comes to the town but he goes away with the curse of the people, physicians looking for a location investigate and refuse to take up a residence here, property cannot be sold unless there is timber upon it, taxes are imposed with the view of giving a few political friends a job of work or a financial "rake off," and if any one dare to protest there is a conspiracy to ruin him and all his interests unless he takes the warning and quickly leaves town.

These things have killed and are sinking the place, which some of the citizens are trying to counteract and unless they succeed it is

only a short time when even the town organization will have to be dissolved. If this is not to occur there must be an effort to put the best men in office, cease to meddle with affairs, stop the town gossip and slander, men and women live as moral people should, cease the breaking up of homes, stop the lawlessness now going on, maintain good schools and raise the moral, social and educational tone of the place. There are some things that must stop and other things must be done if we would survive many years. It is for us to decide what we will do and what we will have.

#### 4.—Recommendations.

There are the required number of scholars in the Fessenden school district and it is recommended to vote to reopen that school as there are too many at East Denmark, which has scholars from several districts from outside its own.

It is recommended that \$800 00 be raised for schools. This will be sufficient with the cash on hand, unless the Fessenden school is opened when it would be safe to make the appropriation \$900 00.

The sum of \$100.00 will be sufficient for text-books, with the privilege of disposing of the old books at the best possible price, to be placed to the credit of the text-book fund.

The Supply Fund is a State necessity and supplies cannot be any longer paid out of the general school funds. The sum of \$50.00 will be required to repay the debt for supplies into the general fund and furnish the supplies for next year.

A public high school is advisable for the town, since there are 26 high school scholars, of whom it is likely 18 will attend the home school, if its present efficiency is maintained.

The sum of \$350.00 will be sufficient to maintain a standard high school, which will be \$100.00 less for the town to raise if a sub-standard school is maintained.

In case of maintaining the high school at its present standard of efficiency it will be necessary to appropriate \$6.94 to meet the bills for tuition of last year, and if the school is reduced it will be necessary to vote a sum of not less than \$425.00 to pay the tuitions of those who have signified their intention or talked of attending school out of town, next year. Many of them would have done so this year but for the provisions made for their obtaining a standard course at home.

The bill of Miss Ethel R. Harmon is not due her from the town and the payment of it from town funds will be illegal and a misappropriation of public taxes. It is recommended that the bill be not paid.

The foregoing is the report of the Superintendent of Schools of Denmark and is a recital of the difficulties to be met in the effort to

maintain the public schools at even a moderate rate of efficiency. I have tried to be faithful in the office thrust upon me and have attended to the duties of it, when I could spare the time from my parish. It has been my effort to give the town the same class of work I had enjoyed in the cities and have made a donation of more than \$600.00 of professional labor to the town, and only hope, in some way, it will be a benefit to those who will avail themselves of the same. I have mentioned some of the town's social and moral maladies and urged for their proper treatment for the good of the town and not for any purpose of retaliation for the shameful things I and my family have and will ever suffer at the hands of those who have not the high principles of honor and whom all, who ever try to help, are ready to crucify, as they once did the Teacher of Galilee.

Thanking those who have assisted me in the effort to maintain efficient schools for the town and the hope that I shall have their assistance to the end of the present school year, this report is,

Respectfully submitted,

REV. A. C. BOYD, Superintendent of Schools.

Denmark, Maine, Feb. 16, 1909.

On account of the crowded condition of the East Denmark school we recommend that a school be maintained at the Fessenden school so called.

We believe that it would be to the advantage of the town to maintain a Free High school and recommend that money be raised for that purpose.

As there is a large balance left in the schoolhouse repair account we think that it will be unnecessary to make any appropriation for repairs.

We believe that the school situation has been thoroughly aired during the past year and needs no repetition by us. If there is any citizen who doesn't thoroughly understand the school situation we will be pleased to answer all questions in relation to the same at the annual Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. PINGREE,	}	<i>School</i>
S. H. SMITH,	}	<i>Committee.</i>



## TABULAR SCHOOL STATEMENT.

No.	School	Teacher	No. of Weeks	No. Registered	Average Attendance	Teacher's * Weekly Wages	Tranportation for the Term	Term Expenses
SPRING TERM								
1	High School...	Freeman H. Sanborn...	8	20	18	15.00		120.00
2	Center.....	Ethel R. Harmon.....	9	34	31	8.50	22.50	99.00
3	East Denmark	Amy L. Smith.....	9	25	22	8.00	51.75	123.75
4	West Denmark	Jesse L. Rowe.....	9	14	13	7.00		63.00
5	Liberty Corner	L. Gertrude Warren...	9	11	11	5.50	63.00	112.50
6	Colby.....	Georgie F. Gatchell....	9	8	7	6.00		54.00
FALL TERM								
1	High School...	Gertrude M. Parsons...	10	14	12	15.00		150.00
2	East Denmark	Amy L. Smith.....	10	26	23	8.00	66.50	146.50
3	West Denmark	Jesse L. Rowe.....	10	13	12	7.00		70.00
4	Liberty Corner	L. Gertrude Warren...	10	11	10	5.50	70.00	125.00
5	Colby.....	Georgie F. Gatchell....	10	9	9	6.00		60.00
WINTER TERM								
1	High School...	Gertrude M. Parsons...	10	14	12	15.00		150.00
2	East Denmark	Amy L. Smith.....	9	23	19	8.00	65.25	137.25
3	West Denmark	Jesse L. Rowe.....	9	12	10	7.00		63.00
4	Liberty Corner	L. Gertrude DeMass....	9	11	9	5.50	63.50	113.00
5	Colby.....	Georgie F. Gatchell....	9	9	9	6.00		54.00
Average and Total for the Year								
1	High School...	{ Freeman H. Sanborn } { Gertrude M. Parsons }	28	16	14	420.00		466.85
2	Center.....	Ethel R. Harmon.....	9	34	31	76.50	22.50	146.90
3	East Denmark	Amy L. Smith.....	28	23	21	224.00	183.50	423.45
4	West Denmark	Jesse L. Rowe.....	28	13	12	196.00		216.10
5	Liberty Corner	L. Gertrude De Mass...	28	11	10	154.00	196.50	365.25
6	Colby.....	Georgie F. Gatchell....	28	9	*8	168.00		200.75
			149	106	96	\$1238.50	\$402.50	\$1,819.30

\*Fraction.



# Good Clothing.



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It's worth something to you to wear clothes you can have confidence in; style, fit, quality right; clothes that not only feel good to you, but look good to others. The name, Hart Schaffner & Marx, in one that we have confidence in; it is a sign of what's best in clothes; when you know you're in a Hart Schaffner & Marx suit, you know that nobody is better dressed. All wool fabrics always.

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## H. B. FOSTER

ONE PRICE CLOTHIER

NORWAY

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MAINE